

June 22, 2021

EMPIRE VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Davis who led the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting was conducted virtually due to health concerns surrounding COVID-19 under a Local State of Emergency declared by President Davis as authorized by Village Ordinance #156. Upon a Roll Call, in attendance were Trustees Bacon, Barr, Chase, Dye, Palmer, and Rademacher. Clerk Smith, Deputy Clerk Acton, Treasurer Nelson were also present.

AGENDA APPROVAL – Davis added consultation with Attorney Figura. **Motion by Bacon, supported by Barr to approve the agenda as presented. Unanimous voice vote. MOTION PASSED.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – Mary Sharry commented on beach access and in-person meetings.

CONSENT AGENDA – **Motion by Bacon, supported by Barr to approve Regular Meeting minutes of 5-25-21; Work Session minutes of 6-10-21; and Bills totaling \$6,730.74. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Davis, Chase, Barr, Rademacher, Dye and Palmer. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS –Revenue and Expenditure Report and Cash Balances Report thru May were received. Financial format will be placed on WS agenda.

COMMUNICATIONS – Bacon read a letter from Diane Hammersmith regarding the beach.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS – Zoning Administrator Grobbel reviewed his written report and noted several additional permits. He noted that South Bar Lake sampling has been completed, but the lab results are not yet available. Algal mats have formed on the lake and that may be a concern. Dye reported that an application for a grant from Michigan ReLeaf has been received and can be submitted at any time.

OLD BUSINESS

RULES OF PROCEDURE – **Motion by Barr, support by Dye to approve the ROP. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Chase, Palmer, Bacon, Rademacher, Davis, Dye, Barr. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

ALL WAY STOP SIGNS AT NIAGARA AND UNION – **Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to approve the purchase of 4 All-Way Stop signs not to exceed \$80.00. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Barr, Chase, Bacon, Rademacher, Palmer, Davis, Dye. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

SOLUTIONS FOR BEACH ACCESS – There was discussion of possible solutions including the addition of sandbags, removal of concrete slab, sanding down the rebar, addition of stairs, addition of rocks, warning signs posted. Grobbel noted the legal implications of continuing to discuss a public right to walk private beaches. Davis clarified that the Village's concern should be confined to Village property.

BULLETIN BOARD FOR BEACH PARK – **Motion by Dye, support by Barr to approve the purchase of UV404, cost \$520 and shipping \$165.** There was discussion of what sort of information could be posted. It was suggested that these items were detailed in the minutes from

last summer. **ROLL CALL: Ayes: Barr, Rademacher, Bacon, Palmer, Chase, Davis, Dye. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

NEW BUSINESS –

NEW NEIGHBORHOOD STREET CLOSURE AND BARRICADE REQUEST – Motion by Barr, support by Dye to supply the barricades and close the street as requested. MOTION PASSED on unanimous voice approval.

ZBA APPOINTMENT – Davis noted that Joanne Beare has resigned, he spoke to both alternates and would appoint Bob Scott to the vacant position. Motion by Barr, support Bacon to approve the appointment of Scott to the ZBA. MOTION PASSED on a unanimous voice vote. Davis appointed Wayne Taghon as an alternate and asked for Council approval. Motion by Bacon, support by Barr to approve the appointment of Taghon as an alternate to the ZBA. MOTION PASSED on a unanimous voice vote.

DISCUSSION OF NO WORK SESSION IN JULY AND AUGUST – No action taken.

IN PERSON MEETINGS AT EMPIRE TOWNSHIP HALL – Motion by Palmer, support by Chase to begin in-person meetings. There was discussion of cleaning protocols. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Chase, Barr, Dye, Palmer, Davis, Bacon, Rademacher. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.

PERMISSION FOR PRESIDENT TO CONTACT ATTORNEY – Motion by Barr, support by Rademacher for Davis to consult with Zoning Administrator and follow protocol before consulting Attorney Figura. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Barr, Chase, Rademacher, Bacon, Davis. Nays: Dye. MOTION PASSED.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE – None.

BOARD COMMENTS – Dye commented that she had attended a Coastal Resilience seminar afternoon. Palmer noted that a committee meeting for tomorrow had been posted on the website as being held on Zoom and at the office. The meeting will be rescheduled.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:24 p.m.

Derith Smith, Empire Village Clerk

These are minutes were approved at the July 27, 2021, Regular Council meeting.